

HEALTH
0 SEP 1944
37Borough of Malden.

INTERIM
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
J. Leslie R. Philip. M.B. Ch.B.
for the year
1 9 4 3

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.1943 - 1944.

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman S.G. Tydeman J.P.)

Chairman.

Alderman C.C. Cowell.

Deputy Chairman.

Councillor E.C. Dines.

Alderman	A.L. Clarke.
Councillor	C.W. Betts.
Councillor	G.W. Free.
Councillor	A. Gepp.
Councillor	J.W. Gozzett.
Councillor	F.G. Barbrook.
Councillor	D.W. Everitt.

OFFICERS.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

J. Leslie R. Philip. M.B. Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector.

E. McC. Taylor. Cert S.I.B., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Qualified Inspector of Meat & Other Foods.

and

(Part-time for six months)

M. H. McIntosh, Cert S.I.B.
Qualified Inspector of Meat & Other Foods.

BOROUGH OF MALDON.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Maldon.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Interim Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1943. This report is only an Interim Report as desired by the Ministry of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS. The Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of the population are given below:--

<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1940.</u>
	14.6	14.8	13.1	10.08
<u>Death Rate.</u>	14.0	14.1	15.3	14.6

Owing to the extensive movement of population due to war conditions it was not possible for the Registrar General to give a "comparability factor", and this means that the figure of 14.0 given as the Death Rate is higher than would normally be the case. The figures are, however, within normal limits.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1940.</u>
Notifications	76	90	450	18
Deaths from	7	4	3	2

Measles was prevalent during the early months of the year, the epidemic was benign in character and did not assume major proportions.

A widespread epidemic of Influenza commenced in late November, an unusually early start. It was not of the virus type and fatalities were few.

As a result of work done by the Essex Epidemiological Committee, a new policy has been promulgated in regard to the admission to Hospital of cases of Scarlet Fever. It is felt that these cases have been for years of a benign type, that in most cases these can be safely nursed at home, and indeed that there may be an added risk in hospitalisation. Exceptions are made where the case is of unusual severity- where other members of the household are engaged in food production or distribution, and where a confinement is expected within a period of four weeks. It is hoped that this policy may release beds for the more serious cases of Measles and Whooping Cough which are not ordinarily admitted to Hospital.

The Maldon Joint Hospital Board's Heybridge Hospital has continued to meet the needs of the Area, despite difficulties in regard to Staffing.

SCABIES. A number of cases have been notified to me but the incidence is by no way widespread.

VENEREAL DISEASE. There has not been any increase in the number of cases of Venereal Disease coming to the notice of the local medical practitioners.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE NATION. Whilst this proposed Comprehensive Health Service is bound to effect far reaching changes concerning Consultative and General Practitioner services, Hospitals, both Voluntary and Municipal,

and the Auxiliary Services such as Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, etc., these changes will in the main affect the County and County Borough Councils. Discussions are going on from which it is hoped will emerge a measure of agreement sufficient to call into being a really satisfactory service.

NURSING AND CIVIL DEFENCE FACILITIES. The local Nursing Associations have continued to give excellent service, and in this the nurses have been assisted in times of stress by Nursing Auxiliaries attached to the Civil Defence First Aid Posts. Civil Defence transport and personnel have also been made available for other purposes when requested.

CASUALTIES DUE TO ENEMY ACTION. In January, hostile aircraft dropped bombs in a residential area of the Town and there resulted a number of casualties - some unfortunately fatal. Civil Defence Services were on the spot quickly and First Aid and Rescue work was smooth and efficient.

I desire to thank the Council for the help given to me during the year under consideration, and to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance freely given to me by the Officers of your Council.

I am.

Your obedient Servant,

J. Leslie R. Philip.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Note. For the Report of the Acting Medical Officer of Health for the year 1943, see next page.

R E P O R T
of the
Acting Medical Officer of Health
for the
year
1943.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.	Land (Acres) as extended at April 1934	5946
	Inland Waters	13
	Tidal Waters	120
	Foreshore	<u>566</u>
	Total	<u>6645</u>
Population (Census 1931 Original Borough)		6559
Population (R.G. estimate 1943 extended Borough)		8295
Number of Inhabited Houses.		2792
Rateable Value. Unreduced		£56,076
Rateable Value. Reduced		£50,658
Sum represented by a Penny Rate		£198.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Number of</u> <u>Births.</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	Legitimate.	59.	55.	114.
	Illegitimate.	5.	2.	7.
	Total.	<u>64.</u>	<u>57.</u>	<u>121.</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population. 14.6.

<u>Number of</u> <u>Still Births.</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	Legitimate.	1.	1.	2.
	Illegitimate.	1.	1.	2.
	Total.	<u>2.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>4.</u>

Rate per 1,000 Live and Still-births. 32.0.

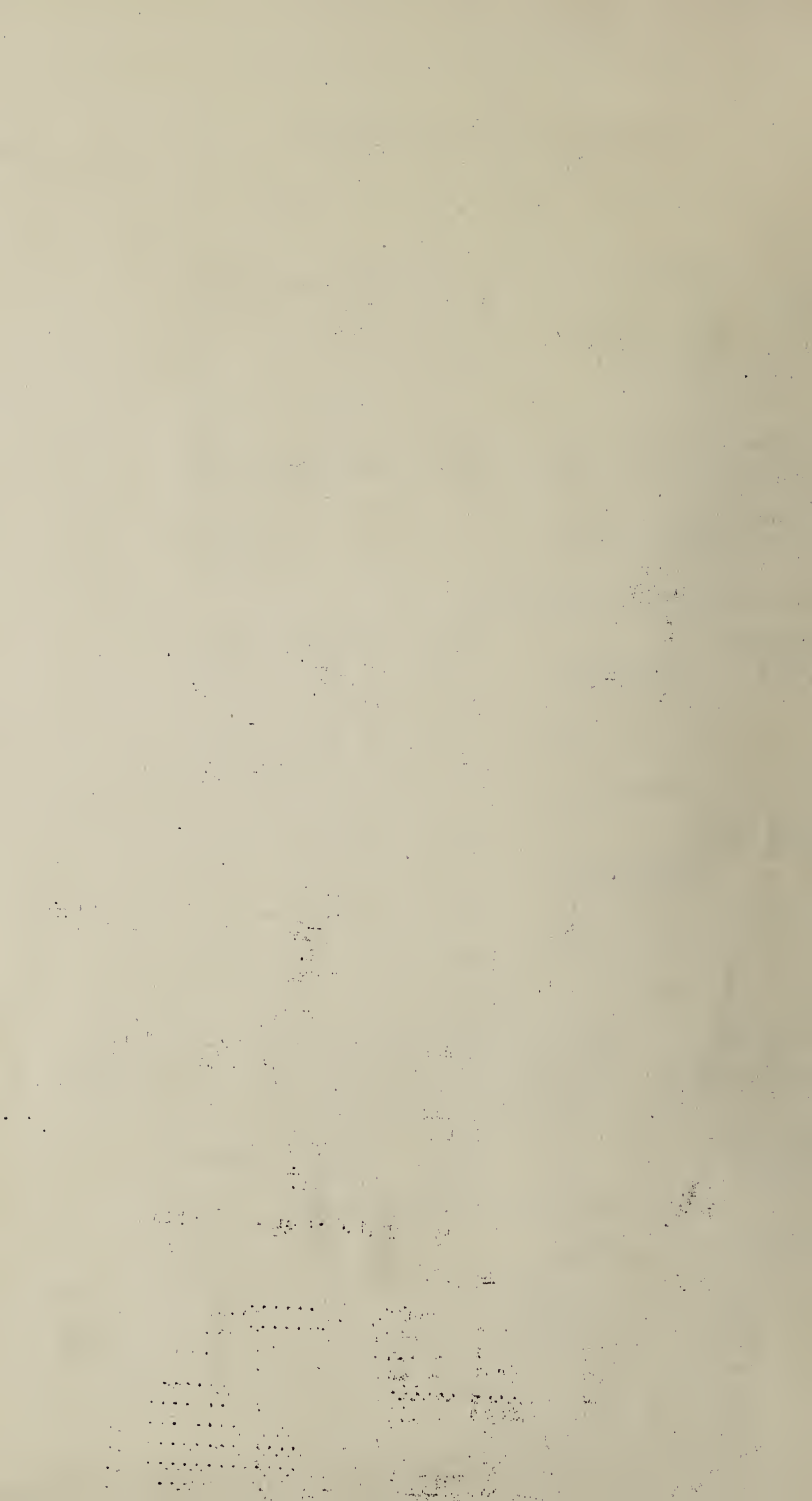
<u>Death Rate</u> <u>of</u> <u>Infants under</u> <u>one year of age.</u>	Number of deaths under one year of age.	5.
	All Infants per 1,000 Live Births.	41.32.
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births	43.86.
	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births.....	Nil.

<u>Number of</u> <u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	56.	60	116.

Death Rate per 1,000 of population 14.0.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.....	5.
Deaths from Influenza.....	4.
Deaths from Cancer.....	17.
Deaths from Intracranial vascular lesions.....	10.
Deaths from Heart Disease.....	42.
Deaths from Bronchitis.....	10.
Deaths from Pneumonia.....	7.
Deaths from Appendicitis.....	3.
Deaths from Digestive disturbances.....	1.



Deaths from Nephritis.....	2.
Deaths from Congenital Malformations, Birth injuries or Infantile diseases..	3.
Deaths from Road traffic accidents....	1.
Deaths from other violent causes.....	5.
Deaths from all other causes.....	6.

Total.....116.

DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY AGE.

Under 1 year	5.
1 and under 2	0.
2 and under 5	1.
5 and under 15	1.
15 and under 25	2.
25 and under 35	2.
35 and under 45	2.
45 and under 55	7.
55 and under 65	24.
65 and under 75	36.
75 and upwards	36.

Total.....116.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The Borough, with the exception of a few houses in the outlying districts, is served by a constant piped water supply pumped from the Corporation's Spital Road and Wantz Road deep wells within the Borough boundary, this supply being augmented by a supply from the Southend Water Company. Samples of the water pumped from the Corporation's wells mentioned above, taken at regular intervals and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, prove that this water is clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from an insignificant trace of iron. The water is soft in character, has a high but not excessive content of salinity and is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity. In these respects it is considered wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The older part of the Borough is served by a system of sewers delivering into a tidal sewage storage tank made to discharge into the River Blackwater at suitable stages of the tide. Approximately 700 houses are served by pail closets, whilst the remainder generally drain by old sewers into the River Blackwater at all stages of the tide.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. Owing to the large volume of sea water and the effect of the tides it is not considered that serious pollution of the River Blackwater is taking place. No complaints have been received of river or stream pollution during the year, and consequently no action has been necessary.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. House refuse is collected weekly by the Corporation in a covered motor freighter, the refuse being disposed of at the Beeleigh Tip on the outskirts of the district by a system of controlled tipping. Night soil pails are emptied twice weekly by a covered motor freighter with removable metal container and its contents discharged at the Sewage Outfall Works.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. Inspections and Visits have been carried out during the year by the Sanitary Inspector under the following headings:-

Housing Inspections.
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.
Infectious Diseases.
Slaughterhouses.
Nuisances.
Water Supply.
Rats and Mice Destruction Act.
Inspection of Prepared Food Premises.
Common Lodging Houses.
Factories Act, 1937.
Visits re. Public Health Acts, etc.
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK. The Farms, Dairies and Milkshops are regularly inspected to see that the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders are being observed. A high standard of cleanliness was maintained during the year at these premises. Samples of Milk are taken for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test, Coliform Tests and Phosphatase Test in the case of Pasteurised Milk. Several minor improvements were carried out and a new Dairy is to be provided in place of one which is unsuitable.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The inspection of Food is carried out in accordance with the memorandum on Food Inspection issued by the Ministry of Health by a Qualified Inspector. Special attention was given to the inspection of tinned foodstuffs, which owing to transport difficulties and long periods between producer and consumer are particularly liable to damage, deterioration and unsoundness.

BAKEHOUSES AND PREPARED FOOD PREMISES. These premises are inspected frequently for cleanliness.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no outstanding epidemic. The following table gives the cases notified, together with the number of deaths.

			Deaths.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	1	...	0.
Scarlet Fever.....	12	...	0.
Erysipelas.....	9	...	0.
Pneumonia.....	11	...	7.
Measles.....	37	...	0.
Whooping Cough.....	3	...	0.
Chicken Pox.....	3	...	0.
Totals.....	76	...	7.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. This continues favourably, the last ascertainable figures show the children immunised as follows:-

Under 5 years	77%
5 and under 15 years	95%

